

**Environmental Restoration (ER) Project
Cerro Grande Fire
Accelerated Actions Information Sheet**

**Potential Release Site (PRS) 18-003(h)
Septic System**

Technical Area (TA)-18 is located off Pajarito Road near the confluence of Pajarito Canyon and Threemile Canyon. The principal activities at TA-18 are the design, construction, research, development, and application of experiments that involve chain reactions of atoms splitting fast enough to be self-sustaining (called nuclear criticality).

PRS History: PRS 18-003(h) is an active septic tank serving Building 18-147. The 500-gallon steel tank, put in service in 1967, is connected to the Laboratory's Sanitary Wastewater System at TA-46. The tank functions as a settling pit; its outlet line connects with the outlet line of PRS 18-003(g) and discharges to the Sanitary Wastewater System.

ER Project personnel sampled the liquid contents of the tank in 1993 as part of a field investigation. In August 1994, personnel sampled subsurface soils from a borehole located in a shallow storm water ditch down gradient of the tank.

PRS 18-003(h) is listed on the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments module of the Laboratory's Hazardous Waste Facility permit. The ER Project has proposed the site for no further action; there are no indications of residual risk at the site.



Issues of Concern: The area upstream of PRS 18-003(h) burned during the Cerro Grande fire (a fire intensity rating

of low to high). There is little potential for erosion or scouring because there is not a drain field associated with the site. There is no debris, nor are there any structures, that could interfere with or be impacted by flood mitigation efforts.

Accelerated Action Status: PRS 18-003(h) is part of a voluntary corrective measures Plan designed to

- Collect supplemental surface and subsurface soil samples,
- Determine the nature and extent of soil contamination (if present) from the supplemental data,
- Assess the potential human health and ecological risks, and
- Clean up the site by excavation, if necessary.

PRS 18-003(h) is an active system and is not scheduled for removal at this time.

Related Documents: November 2, 1999; VCM Plan, March 17, 1999